C06540913 IED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2017-06190 Doc No. C06540913 Date: 07/16/2018

02-109

STATEMENT REGARDING THE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND TURKEY
REGARDING MUTUAL ASSISTANCE BETWEEN
THEIR CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATIONS,
SIGNED AT WASHINGTON MARCH 28, 1996

RELEASE IN FULL

Explanation of the Agreement

The Agreement provides for mutual assistance, to be furnished in accordance with the laws of the Parties, to prevent and investigate infractions of customs laws and in providing information to help ensure the accurate assessment of customs duties and other taxes by the Customs Administrations. Where a request would require the involvement of an agency other than the Customs Administration of the requested state, the Customs Administration undertakes to transmit the request to the appropriate agency. The Agreement specifies various procedures for transmitting requests, providing documents, and securing testimony of officers of the Customs Administration of the other Party in domestic proceedings.

Background Information on Negotiations

The United States initiated discussions to establish on a more formal basis the existing cooperation between the United States and Turkey. A U.S.-proposed draft text was presented to Turkish officials. Negotiations were conducted, in 1995 and early 1996, resulting in signature of the Agreement at Washington on March 28, 1996. Turkey had domestic procedures to complete before entry into force of the Agreement. The Agreement entered into force October 15, 2002, upon notification by both Parties that necessary national requirements had been completed.

Effect of the Agreement

The Agreement is expected to enhance existing cooperation in the enforcement of customs laws. The Agreement strengthens the legal basis for cooperation and provides an explicit procedure for requests for assistance.

Legal Authority

The President's constitutional authority under Article II, Sections 2 and 3.

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2017-06190 Doc No. C06540913 Date: 07/16/2018